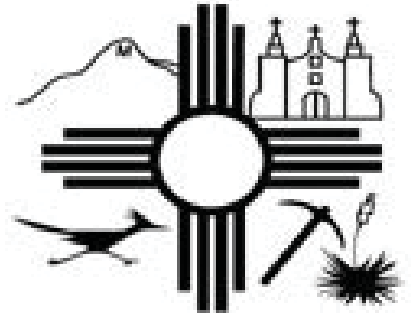


City of Socorro

111 School of Mines Road

Socorro, New Mexico 87801

Phone (575) 835-0240 www.socorronm.gov



Volume 3, No. 3

March 2010

Don't Forget to Vote!

When: Tuesday, March 2, 2010 7am to 7pm

Where:

- Precincts 8, 9-IN (which means IN the city limits), 10-IN, 17, 18-IN and 23-IN at Fire Station 3, 100 Francisco de Avondo Street, across from Parkview School
- Precincts 5-IN and 6 at Finley Gym, 201 McCutcheon Street
- Precincts 1 and 7 at GRADS Building (Torres School), 239 Fisher Street
- Precincts 2 and 4 at the Main Fire Station, 202 Fisher Street, behind the Post Office
- Precinct 3-IN Socorro Schools Superintendent's Office, 700 Franklin

Don't know your precinct? Call City Hall or the County, 835-0240 or 835-0423.

Mayor's Drug Task Force in Action

Now that you've voted, there is still more you can do. You might want to consider becoming a part of the Mayor's Drug Task Force.

Since January 3, 2005, the Mayor's Drug Task Force has addressed substance abuse in the community as a part of SCOPE: Socorro County Options, Prevention and Education, an organization funded primarily by the New Mexico Department of health and contracted with Socorro Mental Health.

The Mayor's Drug Task Force began as an "identified priority" for SCOPE and has grown into a group of community members and health professionals whose mission is "to encourage safe, healthy and drug-free

neighborhoods through increasing awareness and education, changing policy, supporting local law enforcement efforts, and assessing prevention and treatment needs."

The Task Force sponsors the Back to School Bash each year: a pool party for kids with refreshments and education the week school starts. They're currently reviewing curricula for use in the Teen After School Program. Last June they held a Town Hall meeting seeking community input. As a result, they are working with the UNM Echo program to do two forums (one for providers and one for the community) detailing the types of substance abuse treatment available in Socorro County.

One of the current Task Force projects involves recognizing those who have done an outstanding job as parents. The Task Force will be collecting Positive Parenting Stories to be placed on the City's website so that they can "recognize parents who exemplify positive parenting skills within the Socorro community so these skills can be shared with other parents." Watch local newspapers to see how to nominate someone as a Positive Parent.



Mayors DrugTask Force Members work during their January meeting. Six members were present as well as several guests.

According to its by-laws, the Task Force is chaired by a member of the City Council. For the last several years, that member has been Ernest Pargas. Mayor Bhasker noted that Pargas was concerned with the “hidden cost of drug addiction in our city. Ernest has always been in the forefront of that effort.”

If you’re concerned about substance abuse, consider attending a meeting. The Task Force meets the fourth Wednesday of the month in the City Council Chambers from 10:00 am to noon.

Time for Some Spring Cleaning!

March 1 through May 31 is the Great American Cleanup—time to go through your closets, drawers, garage, and yard and get rid of those things you no longer want or need. There are 2 thrift stores in town that will be happy to take items that still have some life left in them, or you can donate them to the Animal Protection Association of Socorro for their annual spring yard sale, or get together with your neighbors and throw your own yard sale! For those things that are broken, worn out, and no longer useful to anyone, the City will haul things to the landfill for you—watch local papers for dates.

If you decide to take your things to the landfill yourself, please remember that all loads must be covered. On very windy days the landfill may be closed--watch for the flashing sign south of the entrance to Casey’s RV Park on Highway 1.

This is also the time of year that many local civic, school and service organizations raise money by helping clean up Socorro. Specific areas are targeted for cleanup and the groups are paid per project from the Keep New Mexico Beautiful grant. If your organization is interested in lending a hand to keep Socorro beautiful, contact Deborah Dean at 835-8927.

But Don’t Throw Everything Away... Wear Some of It!

Earth Day is just around the corner (April 22, to be exact) and it’s not too early to be turning some of that trash and those recyclable items in to wearable art!

The Trash Fashion show will take place on the Plaza Earth Day afternoon. Last year’s show was truly a celebration of creativity: dresses for the wedding party made from old motel shower curtains and drapes, kids’ clothing creatively fringed with a shredder, old jeans and dog food bags sewn into skirts and dresses. But, that was the first year. The second year promises to be even better so get started now. Clothing must be made of at least 50% recycled or reused materials that otherwise would be disposed of. Vintage clothes or clothing made from trash bags won’t be accepted, unless the trash bags are sewn or woven into a garment. And don’t forget the accessories! Hats! Jewelry! Hair ornaments! Your stroll down the fashion runway will be here before you know it!

Alamo Navajo Rugs Highlighted at Alamo Mercantile Spring Open House

Mark your calendar for Saturday, March 17, and plan to head down to the Alamo Mercantile (on California Street next to Socorro Springs) for its annual Spring Open House. There will be fiber arts demonstrations, traditional dance, music and refreshments. The spotlight will be on the work of Isabel Thomas and Bessie Apache who weave their rugs using self-dyed wool and old traditional weaving methods. The Mercantile also will be showcasing high-quality bead work and silver and turquoise jewelry. The Open House is from noon to 6:00 pm.

Employee Anniversaries

Abie Baca	25 years
Richard Lopez	10 years
Richard Sanchez	10 years
Jimmy Lucero	5 years

City Council	
Mary Ann Chavez-Lopez	Gordy Hicks
Toby Jaramillo	Donald Monette
Michael Olguin, Jr.	Ernest Pargas, Jr.
Peter D. Romero	Chuck Zimmerly
Ravi Bhasker, Mayor	
Pat Salome, City Clerk	